

To whom it may concern:

I write to voice my concern over the report that Sinclair Broadcasting has decided to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary just days before the election. Surely this is a clear violation of their public mission, and one of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest, not to espouse a particular candidate. When large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, which may or may not reflect the interests of anyone except headquarters, it's more important that we see news directed at decision-making by real, local people, our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions are surely illegal. They show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.

Sincerely

Kira Stevens